

To : Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

From : Gerry Hyland, Supervisor  
Mount Vernon District

Subject: **BOARD MATTERS for September 22, 2015**

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For your consideration, I submit the following Board Matters accompanied by a brief explanation. Your support will be appreciated.

- 1. Fairfax County Could Conserve Cash from Foreign Pharmaceuticals**
- 2. Request to Recognize John Mason, former CEO of the Workhouse Arts Foundation**
- 3. Request for Expedited Processing of SEA 83-V-083**
- 4. Resolution from the South County Federation Regarding Community Involvement in the Planning and Zoning Process**
- 5. Request to Recognize Louise Cleveland on her Retirement as Health and Human Services Chair of the Mount Vernon Council**
- 6. Request for Concurrent and Simultaneous Processing for RZ/FDP 2015-MV-008**

## **1. Fairfax County Could Conserve Cash from Foreign Pharmaceuticals**

### ***Background***

Oh, Canada, neighbor and northern land, whose cheaper prescription drugs we Americans demand (*to be sung to Canadian National Anthem*). An August 24, 2015 article in the National Association of Counties' *County News* newspaper, discusses the significant cost savings some Florida counties have seen by implementing a plan to import prescription drugs from a Canadian broker. The broker supplies "brand name maintenance medications – such as those for high blood pressure or to lower cholesterol" that saves county employees anywhere from "50 to 80 percent on some medications". Flagler County, Florida's plan, employees who choose to participate have no copays. Schenectady, New York, put a similar program in place in 2004 and has seen that jurisdiction's costs for prescription drugs decrease from their 2003 costs. The article does cite the concerns expressed by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) that it cannot "ensure the authenticity, safety and effectiveness of drugs it hasn't approved" it, on the other hand, does not "object to personal imports of such drugs under certain circumstances".

As the County Executive and his staff attempt to find cost savings in our fiscal year budget in light of our tightly constrained revenue sources and ever escalating cost to provide medical benefits to our employees, I think we should research what other jurisdictions have done and whether it is legal for Fairfax County to participate in a similar program.

### ***Proposed Action***

Therefore, Madam Chairman, I ask, with unanimous consent, that the Board of Supervisors direct the County Executive and County Attorney to research Florida and New York's experience in lowering prescription drug costs for county employees and return to the Board with a memorandum of the legality, issues and potential opportunities in doing the same.

### ***Board Matter Pun***

Haunted French pancakes give me the crepes.

### **Attachment**

## **2. Request to Recognize John Mason, former CEO of the Workhouse Arts Foundation**

### ***Background***

As this Board is well aware, John Mason's performance as Chief Executive Officer of the Workhouse Arts Foundation has been nothing short of miraculous. Over the last four and a half years at the helm, John has righted the ship and set the Workhouse Arts Center on a course for continued success. During his tenure, John, the Board of Directors and their staff have completed renovations that has resulted in programs in 11 buildings, eliminated its bond debt and now operates as a self-sustaining organization with an impressive 80:20 earned to contributed revenue ratio. This could not have happened without John's leadership, managerial expertise and ability to collaborate with his Board members, the local community, members of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and our senior staff. On September 14<sup>th</sup>, Ava Spece took over as CEO of the Workhouse Arts Center having most recently been CEO of the Visual Arts Center in Richmond. We know we will continue to see great things from this organization as the Workhouse Arts Center transitions into a regional destination for cultural events in Northern Virginia.

### ***Proposed Action***

Therefore, Madam Chairman, I ask, with unanimous consent, that the Board of Supervisors direct the Office Public Affairs to invite Mr. John Mason and the Board of Directors of the Workhouse Arts Center and its staff, to come before the Board to be recognized for his incredible efforts.

### ***Board Matter Pun***

Why did the French Art Museum close? There was a lack of Monet.

### **3. Request for Expedited Processing of SEA 83-V-083**

#### ***Background***

The 7-Eleven at the corner of Richmond Highway and Armistead Road has submitted a Special Exception Amendment to replace underground storage tanks and to modify the location of its fuel pumps, add an additional fuel pump and improve and enlarge the canopy in order to improve site circulation. Staff in the Department of Planning and Zoning is completing their review of the application and anticipates a hearing before the Planning Commission in the middle of October. In order to meet the Board of Supervisors' deadline to hear land use cases, the applicant has requested the Board of Supervisors to hear the case at its October 20th meeting. Staff and the South County Federation have no objection to this request.

#### ***Proposed Action***

Therefore, Madam Chairman, I move that the Board of Supervisors grant expedited processing of SEA 83-V-083 and schedule a public hearing on October 20, 2015 at 3:30 p.m.

*This motion should not be construed as a favorable recommendation for a potential plan amendment or any subsequent rezoning or other applications and does not relieve the applicant from complying with all regulations, ordinances, or adopted standards, and will not prejudice the consideration of this application in any way.*

#### ***Board Matter Pun***

Marriage is the mourning after the knot before.

#### **4. Resolution from the South County Federation Regarding Community Involvement in the Planning and Zoning Process**

##### ***Background***

Recently, the South County Federation passed along to me an e-mail expressing their concerns about how the community is put in a position of reacting to a land use proposal rather than being involved in the front end of an application alongside the Department of Planning and Zoning (DPZ) and the Office of the District Supervisor. I can sympathize with the concerns of community volunteers quickly digesting and weighing in during the narrow timeframe between a staff report publication and public hearings before the Planning Commission. It is the practice of my office, and I am sure many other district offices, to involve the community in meetings and discussions with applicants and professional staff in DPZ, especially in major land use cases with far ranging implications. These iterative deliberations can remove major confrontations, sometimes to the lament of the media, but always to the benefit of the applicant and community. However, Fairfax County must always strive for improvement and deeper levels of collaboration. As we look at how Fairfax County can improve our land use process, I wish to share the e-mail from the South County Federation with staff for their review.

##### ***Proposed Action***

Therefore, Madam Chairman, I ask, with unanimous consent, that the attachment be shared with appropriate staff for their review and report back to the Board with their comments and recommendations.

##### ***Board Matter Pun***

Acupuncture is a jab well done. That's the point of it.

##### ***Attachment***

## **5. Request to Recognize Louise Cleveland on her Retirement as Health and Human Services Chair of the Mount Vernon Council**

### ***Background***

For the last fifteen years, Louise Cleveland has guided the work of the Health and Human Services Committee (HHS) of the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations. Her passion to improve the lives of others in her Mount Vernon community is almost as deep as her HHS resolutions are long. But all joking aside, I have not known anyone to care so much about the lives of others who may not have the same opportunities for health care, housing and other necessary services and fight for them over so long a time. Louise has been a constant presence not only on the Council, but also on the Route One Task Force for Human Services and the Southeast Health Planning Task Force. Louise was instrumental in the committee to Save Mount Vernon Hospital and has been a voice for those who are in the most need of an advocate.

### ***Proposed Action***

Therefore, Madam Chairman, I ask, with unanimous consent, that the Board of Supervisors direct the Office of Public Affairs to invite Louise Cleveland to come before the Board to be recognized for her service to Mount Vernon.

### ***Board Matter Pun***

When fish are in schools, they sometimes take debate.

## **6. Request for Concurrent and Simultaneous Processing for RZ/FDP 2015-MV-008**

### ***Background***

Lennar Multifamily Communities, LLC (the "Applicant") is proposing to construct a multifamily residential building on property identified as Fairfax County Tax Map Reference 83-1 ((1)) 42 and 49A (the "Subject Property"). The proposal is currently being reviewed as part of an out-of-turn Comprehensive Plan (the "Plan") amendment and concurrent rezoning/final development plan application identified as RZ/FDP 2015-MV-008. The Applicant is hopeful that the subject property is able to accommodate a connection to the County's proposed levee project in the Huntington area. To allow processing of a site plan concurrent with the Plan amendment and rezoning application, the applicant seeks concurrent processing of a site plan.

### ***Proposed Action***

Therefore, I move that the Board of Supervisors direct the Director of the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services to accept for concurrent and simultaneous processing any site plans, architectural drawings or other drawings as may be necessary in conjunction with rezoning/final development plan application RZ/FDP 2015-MV-008.

*This motion should not be construed as a favorable recommendation for a potential plan amendment or any subsequent rezoning or other applications and does not relieve the applicant from complying with all regulations, ordinances, or adopted standards, and will not prejudice the consideration of this application in any way.*

### ***Board Matter Pun***

